

# Fax

**Name:** Examiner Alaubaidi  
**Organization:** U.S.P.T.O.  
**Fax:** 703-746-7416  
**Phone:** 703-305-1950  
**From:** James Howard, Reg. No. 39,715  
**Date:** November 12, 2002  
**Subject:** Proposed Examiner Interview  
**Pages:** 2

Dear Examiner Alaubaidi,

Further to our telephone conference today and as requested, I have enclosed a brief outline of discussion points. I hope that this outline will lead to a brief ~~personal or telephonic~~ interview regarding this application and the applied reference prior to the November 14, 2002 due date.

I look forward to receiving your return call.

Best regards,

James Howard  
McGinn & Gibb  
703-761-4100  
Reg. No. 39,715

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**Bullet Outline of Discussion Points**  
**Examiner Interview**  
**U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/672,304**

**The Claimed Invention**

- Solves the problem of untimely web crawler index updates
  - avoids updating too soon and too late
- Determines when to conduct a follow-up Index update for a file based upon data within a previous download of a that file
- Sets an access time for a second file based on data downloaded from a first file.

**The Applied Reference**

- Solves the problem of updating a file when it is not necessary
- Conducts periodic searches
- Includes a notification system that indicates a file has been updated and ensures that the next web crawl encounters the updated file.
- Analyzes each file before download to determine whether a previous download is just as current (using timestamps)

**The Differences**

- The applied reference does not "set an access time"
  - No mention of the time when a file will be accessed
  - Only directed to determining whether a file will be accessed
- The applied reference is directed to a different problem
  - minimizes latency by preventing crawling of files unless they have been updated